Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Ketchikan Area Office 2030 Sea Level Dr. #205 Ketchikan, AK 99901



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: February 16, 2021

CONTACT: Justin Breese Ketchikan Assistant Area Management Biologist justin.breese@alaska.gov (907) 225-5195

SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL GEODUCK FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following area will be open for the commercial harvest of geoduck for live sale from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 17, and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Thursday, February 18, 2021:

<u>Ulitka Bay (Subdistrict 103-70-001)</u>: will open for a remaining harvest of approximately 5,000 pounds of geoduck.

The following area will be open for the commercial harvest of geoduck for live sale with no harvest limit from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 17, and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Thursday, February 18, 2021:

Cone Island North (Subdistricts 103-50-005, 104-40-005): will open for a remaining harvest of 130,000 pounds of geoduck.

Fishermen are reminded that unless otherwise specified, regulations regarding the geoduck fishery are stated in 5 AAC 38.142: Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan.

For a description of the above areas, please refer to the Southeast Alaska commercial geoduck fishery announcement dated September 21, 2020, announcing the open areas and their guideline harvest levels. All companies buying geoduck clams must contact the Fish and Game, Ketchikan office with a harvest report before 12:00 noon on Friday, February 19, 2021.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1M1321.

Under Alaska's Health Orders 5, 6, and 8, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Orders. COVID-19 Health Orders may be found here: https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-order/.

ADF&G offices remain open but will be minimally staffed as many staff will be working from home to help slow the spread of COVID-19. The most efficient way to communicate with department staff will be through email. A list of contacts and contact information is provided below. If you need to conduct business in person at an ADF&G office, face coverings and strict social distancing is required.

Fishery Contacts

For information on surveys, biomass estimates, and corresponding GHLs contact: Quinn Smith (quinn.smith@alaska.gov) or Kyle Hebert (kyle.hebert@alaska.gov)

For information on management of the geoduck fishery contact:

Justin Breese (justin.breese@alaska.gov), Bo Meredith (bo.meredith@alaska.gov), or Whitney Crittenden (whitney.crittenden@alaska.gov)

In addition, a complete list of commercial fishery contacts for Southeast Alaska can be found at: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.contacts

Advisory Announcement web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220